

Message Text

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PAGE 01 MOSCOW 10207 271606Z

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TAGS: OEXC, UR

SUBJ: EXCHANGES: CULTURAL PRESENTATIONS: ROGER WAGNER CHORALE

REF: A. STATE 169690 AND PREVIOUS; B. MOSCOW 9462, 8825, 5818

1. I URGE DEPARTMENT'S CLOSE REVIEW OF FOLLOWING POINTS CONCERNING ROGER WAGNER CHORALE NEGOTIATIONS. I BELIEVE THIS CULTURAL PRESENTATION WOULD HAVE MAJOR IMPACT HERE IF AGREEMENT CAN BE REACHED.

2. GOSK (GOLOVIN) IN MEETING AUGUST 27 ACCEPTED IN PRINCIPLE ROGER WAGNER CHORALE FOR TOUR OF USSR WITH THESE CONDITIONS;

A. TOUR THREE WEEKS, NOT FOUR FIFTEEN CONCERTS, SIX OR SEVEN CITIES.

B. BESIDES FOOD, HOTEL, INTERNAL AND RETURN TRANSPORTATION, GOSK WILL PAY TWO RUBLES PER PERSON PER DAY BUT NO RPT NO HONORARIUM. (NOTE: COLLEGE CHOIRS HAVE RECEIVED SOMEWHAT SIMILAR ARRANGEMENTS IN PAST, BUT THIS IS TOTALLY DIFFERENT TREATMENT FROM ROBERT SHAW AGREEMENT, FOR EXAMPLE.)

C. GOSK DESIRES CHOOSE TWO OR THREE PROGRAMS FROM ENTIRE REPERTOIRE TO BE FURNISHED BY DEPARTMENT SOONEST. FYI: GOLOVIN DISTURBED OVER AMOUNT OF RELIGIOUS MUSIC IN REPERTOIRE BUT WAS ASSURED BY EMBOFF THAT MUTUALLY-ACCEPTABLE PROGRAMS CAN BE WORKED OUT. END FYI.

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3. GOLOVIN UNENTHUSIASTIC ABOUT CHORALE WHICH HE VIEWS

AS MONEY LOSER. HE SAYS IT WOULD APPEAL TO SPECIALIZED PUBLIC AND CAN ONLY PERFORM IN PHILHARMONIC HALLS OF APPROXIMATELY 1,000 SEATING CAPACITY. (NOTE: HALLS UP TO 3,000 RARE HERE, ACCORDING TO GOLOVIN.)

4. IN MEETING AUGUST 27 WITH GOSK, AND IN EARLIER DISCUSSIONS BETWEEN EMBOFFS AND MFA, MINCULT, IT IS INCREASINGLY APPARENT THAT MYSTERY LIST OF 1973-1976 CULTURAL PRESENTATIONS, WHICH ALL RELEVANT SOVIET OFFICES HAVE AND EMBASSY HAS REPEATEDLY REQUESTED (REF B.) IS SEVERLY UNDERMINING EMBASSY POSITION IN NEGOTIATING ARRANGEMENTS SUCH AS WAGNER CHORALE. THEY SIMPLY HAVE MORE INFORMATION THAN EMBASSY, WHICH THEY CONSIDER DEFINITIVE, AND THEY USE IT BOTH FOR PRESSURE AND FOR HUMOR. ADVISE BACKGROUND AND DETAILS.
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